



We Are Columbia

# PRESS RELEASE

Public and Media Relations Department

(P) 803-545-3020 | (F) 803-343-8719

[pio@columbiasc.net](mailto:pio@columbiasc.net) | [www.columbiasc.net](http://www.columbiasc.net)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, August 25, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or [smbell@columbiasc.net](mailto:smbell@columbiasc.net)

### Explore Nature at Riverfront Park

Get up close and personal with nature during **free** guided walks at Riverfront Park.

Participants will have the chance to discover butterflies and dragonflies, learn the history of the Columbia Canal, identify a variety of trees and meet some aquatic critters.

Join one of the City of Columbia's park rangers during the following walks:

- **Wet Sandal Walk: Broad River | Tuesdays, Aug. 30, Sept. 13 and Sept. 27 from 6-7 p.m.**

Join us for a Ranger-guided tour to learn more about the Broad River and its abundant resources. We will walk beside the river in the floodplain forest, talk about the historic Columbia Canal and the ecological importance of this special place. Learn a little history, meet some aquatic critters and dip your toes in the river! *Participants should meet at the Riverfront Park (North) parking lot, 4122 River Drive.*

- **Tree Identification | Saturday, Sept. 3 from 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

Explore the variety of trees inhabiting our City and parks. We'll learn how to use an identification key that you can take home to identify the trees in your own yard, neighborhood or local park. *Participants should meet at the Riverfront Park (South) parking lot, 312 Laurel Street.*

- **Wildlife Walk | Tuesday, Sept. 6 from 6-7 p.m.**

Discover the abundant and diverse wildlife that inhabit Riverfront Park including turtles, bugs and more! *Participants should meet at the Riverfront Park (North) parking lot, 4122 River Drive.*

- **Butterfly & Dragonfly Walk | Tuesday, Sept. 20 from 6-7 p.m.**

Join us for a Ranger-led walk at Riverfront Park to discover the abundant butterflies and dragonflies that we see in the fall. *Participants should meet at the Riverfront Park (North) parking lot, 4122 River Drive.*

- **Canal History Tour | Thursday, Sept. 22 from 9 – 10 a.m.**

Join us for a Ranger-guided tour along the historic Columbia Canal and learn how it has been part of Columbia's growth and innovation for almost 200 years. We'll discuss the original canal, Columbia's Waterworks, the earliest hydropower plants, and the SC State Penitentiary (CCI). *Participants should meet at the Riverfront Park (South) parking lot, 312 Laurel Street.*

Guests are encouraged to bring binoculars and field guides as well as any essentials like water, sunscreen, bug repellent, hats and sturdy walking footwear.

For more information, please call the Parks & Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.

###